

Message Text

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TAGS: DPC, NATO, MPOL
SUBJECT: SUGGESTED ATTENDANCE FOR ALLOCATED SEATING AT
THE DPC MINISTERIAL

REF: (A) 77 USNATO 11954 (DTG 291841Z NOV 77),
(B) 77 STATE 280195 (DTG 230201Z NOV 77),
(C) 77 USNATO 11948 (DTG 291735Z NOV 77),
(D) 77 USNATO 11568 (DTG 181959Z NOV 77)

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1. LOOKING FORWARD TO THE DPC MINISTERIAL, WE WILL BE
CONFRONTED WITH THE CUSTOMARY PROBLEM OF DELEGATION SIZE
AND SEATING (REFTELS). LAST FALL WE ADDRESSED THIS
PROBLEM IN A FUNDAMENTAL WAY IN REF C. WITH THE HIGH
DEGREE OF INTEREST IN THE LTDP, WE CAN EXPECT SEATING TO
BE EVEN MORE OF A PROBLEM (IF POSSIBLE) THAN IN THE PAST.
THEREFORE, IT IS IMPORTANT TO FACE UP TO THE ATTENDANCE
ISSUE EARLY-ON. TO INSURE THE ATTENDANCE OF KEY MEMBERS
OF BRUSSELS STAFFS WHO WILL CONTINUE TO BE CLOSELY
INVOLVED IN ALL DDPC MATTERS, BUT MOST PARTICULARLY IN
THE LTDP AND ITS FOLLOW-UP, THERE FOLLOW BRUSSELS
ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS. THESE ARE IN LINE WITH THE
PRECEDENT ESTABLISHED AT THE DPC MINISTERIAL LAST
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DECEMBER (REF A), AND ALLOW MINIMUM BUT ACCEPTABLE ATTEN-
DANCE OF BRUSSELS PERSONNEL, WHILE LEAVING THE BULK OF
SEATS OPEN FOR WASHINGTON PARTICIPANTS.

. A. DPC PLENARY SESSION (THREE PRINCIPALS, SECDEF,
CHAIRMAN JCS, AND AMBASSADOR BENNETT, SEATED AT THE TABLE,
WITH ELEVEN SEATED BEHIND): OF THE ELEVEN SEATS BEHIND

THE PRINCIPALS, BRUSSELS REQUIRES A MINIMUM OF FOUR SEATS (GLITMAN, KNOWLTON, LEGERE, AND A USNATO NOTE-TAKER), LEAVING SEVEN SEATS BEHIND FOR WASHINGTON PARTICIPANTS.

. B. DPC RESTRICTED SESSION (TWO PRINCIPALS, SECDEF AND AMBASSADOR BENNETT, SEATED AT THE TABLE WITH FOUR SEATED BEHIND): OF THE FOUR SEATS BEHIND THE PRINCIPALS, BRUSSELS REQUIRES A MINIMUM OF ONE (LEGERE), LEAVING THREE SEATS BEHIND FOR WASHINGTON PARTICIPANTS. NOTE THAT FOUR SEATS BEHIND WILL BE THE MINIMUM NUMBER. WE EXPECT ALLIES TO WANT A SLIGHT INCREASE TO SIX BEHIND AS WAS THE CASE LAST DECEMBER (REF D), THUS ALLOWING FIVE SEATS BEHIND AVAILABLE FOR WASHINGTON. SHOULD ALLIES ASK FOR AN INCREASE TO SIX, WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD ACCOMMODATE THEM, PARTICULARLY GIVEN OUR INTEREST IN ENCOURAGING BROAD INTEREST IN THE LTDP.

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2. THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS ARE MINIMAL FOR BRUSSELS. WE FRANKLY WOULD PREFER TO HAVE ONE ADDITIONAL SEAT AT BOTH THE PLENARY AND RESTRICTED SESSIONS TO PERMIT ATTENDANCE BY OTHER KEY BRUSSELS PERSONNEL. IN THIS REGARD, WE WOULD GRATEFULLY ACCEPT A "ROTATING" ARRANGEMENT WITH WASHINGTON FOR A FIFTH BRUSSELS ATTENDEE SEATED BEHIND FOR THE PLENARY AND A SECOND SEATED BEHIND FOR THE RESTRICTED SESSION. BENNETT

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